

January 29, 2009

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

A bulletin to keep you and your neighbors informed of current news and happenings in our community. If you do not get this bulletin directly, feel free to email me at cbball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be sure to get you on the list.

For more District 2 News go to our website at:

www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm

We Want To Hear From You!

The link below will navigate you to a list of meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions please call the contact number listed for that meeting.

http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm

How Can You Participate in Howard County Government?

This is your chance to stay informed and involved! Your comments are welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax. All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. Click the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings

http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm

View the Council's Current Legislation and Stay Informed

The County Council is responsible for adopting the laws of the County. The legislative process generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm

Boards and Commissions Vacancies

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to view the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HC_BoardsandCommissions.htm

Report an Illegal Sign

You can help us by reporting Illegal Signs with a new online form. The form is available at the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DILP/Permits/Permits_signs_Illegal.asp

Please be sure to describe the location of the illegal sign in the free-form textual area at the bottom of the form.

For further information on the County's sign code, the sign permit application process, sign sizes, fees and for other answers to frequently asked questions, visit the Department of Inspections, Licenses & Permits page on the County's website http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DILP/DILP_HomePage.htm or call DILP at 410-313-1830.

Pardon Our Dust!

You may have seen or may see some road work in your neighborhood. Howard County Department of Public Works will be conducting the following construction projects. Additional information is provided below describing the details of such projects.

Village of Long Reach Traffic Calming Construction to Begin

A Howard County construction project to provide traffic calming on Tamar Drive in Columbia is scheduled to begin on or about **Monday, February 2**. A total of three flat-top traffic calming tables will be installed on Tamar Drive between Old Montgomery Road and Saddle Drive. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by late **February 2009**.

Flagging operations will be in place to direct traffic as needed, and signs will be posted to advise motorists of the construction during construction hours, weekdays from **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

For questions or concerns about **Capital Project T-7076**, contact Lisa Brightwell, Public Works Customer Service, at **410-313-3440**, or by e-mail to publicworks@howardcountymd.gov

Planning Board Hearing Schedule for Columbia ZRA's!

The normal Planning Board alternate Thursdays schedule has been modified to address the Downtown General Plan Amendment – ZRA 113, as well as other cases. For detailed meeting information, please refer to the Planning Board Agenda. **The Board's role is advisory to the County Council (Rules of Procedure—Section 1.108).**

Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, February 4th, (7:30 PM) – ZRA 102- Continuation – Work Session (No Testimony)
Tyson 2 Room, County Offices, 8930 Stanford Boulevard, Columbia

Thursday, February 5th, (6:00 PM) - ZRA 113- Continuation
Public Testimony, **WLHS Cafeteria**
Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia
****Electronic Sign-Up for Testimony****

ZRA 102 -Wilde Lake Business Trust – Village Center Redevelopment
<http://www.co.ho.md.us/DPZ/DPZDocs/ZRA102.pdf>

Technical Staff Report
<http://www.co.ho.md.us/DPZ/DPZDocs/ZRA102TSR.pdf>

ZRA 113 - Submitted by the Honorable Mary Kay Sigaty at the request of General Growth Properties, Inc. (amend 2000 General Plan and Zoning Regulations related to Downtown Columbia)
<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CCdocs/ZRA113.pdf>

Technical Staff Report:

<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DPZ/DPZDocs/ZRA113StaffReport.pdf>

Appendices:

<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DPZ/DPZDocs/ZRA113Appendices.pdf>

Comments or testimony may be mailed or e-mailed to planningboard@howardcountymd.gov up to the day prior to the scheduled public meeting.

Special needs requests should be submitted 3 working days prior to the meeting. For more information, contact **Bob Lalush at (410) 313-2350**

Job Fair & Resource Center at Bridgeway Community Church – This Saturday!

Bridgeway Community Church will be having a Job Fair on **January 31st 2009 from 11am to 3pm**. If you are seeking employment in the Howard County and surrounding area, please come prepared with copies of your resume to present to employers.

Bridgeway Community Church is located at **9189 Red Branch Road, Columbia, MD 21045**.

For questions visit www.bridgewayonline.org/jobfair or call **410-992-5832**

Bain Center in Howard County Temporarily Closed! – Relocation Information of Bain Center Events

Howard County's Bain Center recently received significant water damage due to a broken water pipe. The Center is now closed to the public, and all day and evening activities have been cancelled or relocated. The Center hopes to **reopen on February 17**.

The new location for the annual **Penguin Pace on February 1** will be **Harper's Choice Middle School**, 5450 Beaverkill Road in Columbia. The course will remain the same.

The **February Arts Showcase on February 19** in honor of Black History Month has been moved to **Kahler Hall**, 5440 Old Tucker Row in Columbia.

Center participants may continue to receive the following services by calling these numbers:

*Maryland Access Point (MAP) **410-313-5980**

*Senior Health Insurance Assistance **410-313-7392**

*Noon time meals may be received at other senior centers. For information about reservations and locations, please call **MAP at 410-313-5980**.

* AARP tax preparation normally held at the Bain Center will be held at **Slayton House, February 2-12** and at the **Wilde Lake Interfaith Center on February 13**. Call **410-313-1400** for appointments.

If you are scheduled to attend an event at The Bain Center and have not been contacted with a new location, call **410-313-7213 (Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm)** for information.

Department of Recreation & Parks Announces Deer Management Program for 2008-2009

The Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks has announced its fall/winter schedule of managed deer hunts. The hunts will be held in an effort to help maintain a stable, balanced white-tailed deer population in our parks where deer browsing has been shown to reduce biodiversity.

Since the program began in 1998, there has been an observable improvement in habitat quality and vegetation abundance in many of the parks where managed hunting has taken place. As a result, the amount of hunting in Alpha Ridge Park, David Force Park, High Ridge Park and the Middle Patuxent

Environmental Area has been reduced to a level needed to manage deer abundance and protect natural resources. The County has reduced the number of managed hunting days by two. This year's managed hunts will include a combination of bow and shotgun hunting. **Hunting hours are from dawn until 12 noon**, and each park will be closed for all other uses during this time. The hunting schedule is as follows:

Blandair Park:

Bow Hunting January 29

David Force Park:

Bow & Shotgun February 5

Children on Board Preschool Fair – This Saturday!

Child Care & Preschool Information Fair, **Saturday, January 31st from 9am to 1pm at the Ten Oaks Ballroom, Clarksville, Maryland.** Get information on child care centers, preschools, summer camps, family child care, school-age programs and more! **FREE ADMISSION!** Please bring a nonperishable food item to donate to the Howard County Food Bank.

For more information, call **410-313-1940** or email childcare@howardcountymd.gov

Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program -Upcoming Events!

Long Term Living: Covering the Cost

Extra costs for long-term care may be part of your future. These costs may include in-home care, assisted living, and/or nursing home care. Long-term insurance is one way to prepare for some of these costs, but not the only way. Explore the often-confusing realm of long-term care insurance and consider the ultimate question of whether to buy or not. Discussions are led by representatives of the Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program, Howard

County Office on Aging. For questions or to pre-register, please call 410-313-7391. No fee.

Wed., February 4, 2009 11:00 am Kiwanis Wallas Recreation Center
10481 Frederick Rd., Ellicott City
21042

AND

Wed., April 1, 2009 11:00 am Kiwanis Wallas Recreation Center
10481 Frederick Rd., Ellicott City
21042

What You Can Expect From Medicare: MEDICARE 101

Are you currently on Medicare or soon will be? Do you help someone who has Medicare as his or her health insurance? This workshop reviews how Medicare works, what the benefits are, and how it relates to supplemental health insurance. Information on the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage will also be covered. Sponsored by the Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), Howard County Office on Aging.

For questions or to pre-register, please call **410-313-7391. No fee.**

Wed., February 11th, 2009 7:00 pm Ellicott City Senior Center
9401 Frederick Road,
Ellicott City, MD

AND

Wed., March 4, 2009 11:00 am Kiwanis Wallas Recreation
10481 Frederick Rd.
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Why Medicare Isn't Enough! – Medicare 102

This workshop focuses on the gaps in Medicare coverage. Take a look at the ways in which Medicare gaps can be covered. Get your questions answered

and find out whether you have the insurance package that best suits your needs. Discussion includes information on prescription drug resources and Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage. Sponsored by the Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), Howard County Office on Aging. Register by calling 410-313-7391. No fee.

Thurs., Feb. 26, 2009	7:00 pm	The Bain Center 5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia 21044
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AND

Wed., Mar. 18, 2009	11:00 am	Kiwanis Wallas Recreation 10481 Frederick Rd Ellicott City, MD 21042
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Recreation & Parks to Host Summer Camp Fair

The Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks will host a Summer Camp Fair on **Saturday, February 7th** from **11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at the **Glenwood Community Center, 2400 Route 97 in Cooksville.**

The Fair will feature information on camp programs scheduled to be held at locations throughout Howard County operated by the Department of Recreation & Parks and other businesses and organizations such as the Columbia Association, Circle D Farm, Glenwood Country Day School and the Howard County Conservancy.

Representatives from all the camps will be on hand with information and to answer questions about their programs. There will also be demonstrations throughout the day and everyone who registers on-site for a Recreation & Parks' camp will be entered into a prize drawing that will be held at the end of the day.

The event is free and childcare will be provided. For more information about the Summer Camp Fair, contact the **Glenwood Community Center** at **410-313-4840**

Women's History Month Essay Contest!

Howard County's Commission for Women invites Howard County students (public, private and home-schooled), grades 6-12, to participate in their annual essay contest to salute Women's History Month, celebrated each March. This year's national theme is "Taking the Lead to Save the Planet." The deadline for submission is **Friday, February 13.**

Essays should describe either a contemporary or historical American woman who has excelled in protecting the environment and our planet. Essays should be sent to women@howardcountymd.gov or mailed to the **Commission for Women Student Essay Contest, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 300, Columbia, MD 21046** and must be received by the **February 13** deadline.

First place winners in each grade category (6-8 and 9-12) will receive a \$200 US Savings Bond and will be invited to read their essays at the Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremony on **Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m.** at **Howard Community College.**

For contest rules and judging criteria, contact the **Department of Citizen Services** at **410-313-6400**, or visit the Department's website at www.howardcountymd.gov/CitizenServices/.

Spirit of Columbia Scholarship

The CA Scholarship Program offers up to six \$2,500 education awards to graduating high school seniors who exhibit exceptional efforts in providing community service in the Columbia area. Students who attend Howard County public or private school, live in Columbia, and maintain a C average, are eligible to apply for the scholarship award.

<http://www.columbiaassociation.com/pdfs/getinvolved/SpiritOfColumbiaApplication.pdf>

Application deadline is March 2, 2009.

Leadership Howard County Presents: Leadership U 2009!

Are you currently a high school sophomore who wants to make a difference in your community? Consider joining students from all over the county for a unique experience that will take place from August through December of your junior year. You will spend 4 months learning about our community, building leadership skills and working on a service project that your team will design and implement.

Come hear recent Leadership U graduates share their experiences at our information sessions to be held **on February 3, 2009 at 7pm at the Glenwood Library & February 8, 2009 at 2pm at the East Columbia Library**. In the event of inclement weather on either of those dates, a make up session will be held on **February 10, 2009 at 7pm at the East Columbia Library**.

Information and applications for Leadership U 2009 will be available on our website www.leadershiphc.org or from Howard County high school guidance offices in early January.

The application deadline is March 13, 2009. For more information please contact Leadership Howard County at **(410) 730-4474** and connect with **Krysta Huxford**.

The Volunteer Center Serving Howard County Offers New Volunteer Training Courses

On behalf of the Volunteer Center Serving Howard County, please consider adding the following trainings to your schedule to further enhance our community's resilience.

The Volunteer Center, at the request of Howard County's Department of Citizen Services, will assist with the registration and referral of these spontaneous volunteers to requesting registered agencies. Community volunteers are being trained to help with this process. Might you be interested? If you are willing to assist with the coordination of human

resources, call **410-715-3179** or email pam@volunteerhoward.org to register or to obtain more information.

April 2009

CERT – Citizen Emergency Readiness Training

James N. Robey Public Safety Training Center
2200 Scott Wheeler Drive - Marriottsville

For registration or more information go to:

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/FAR/far_cert.htm or contact Rich Philips at rphilps@howardcountymd.gov or call **443-472-8212**

Thursday, April 16 - Session 1 -Personal Preparedness (7-10 pm)

Saturday, April 18 - Saturday - mirror of Session 1 (8-11 am)

Tuesday, April 21 - Session 2 - ASHI First Aid, part 1 (7-10 pm)

Thursday, April 23 - Session 3 - ASHI First Aid, part 2 (7-10 pm)

Saturday, April 25 - mirror of Sessions 2 & 3 (8-11am and 12:30-3:30 pm)

Tuesday, April 28 - Session 4 Disaster Recovery, part 1 (7-10 pm)

Thursday, April 30 - Session 5 Disaster Recovery, part 2 (7– 10 pm)

Saturday, May 2- mirror of Sessions 4 & 5 (8-11am and 12:30-3:30 pm)

Saturday, April 25 from 10am – 2pm – Ready When the Time Comes

Call **410-715-3179** or email pam@volunteerhoward.org to register or to obtain more information.

For additional information on volunteer opportunities or to view a copy of the Volunteer Center's Guide to Giving visit www.volunteerhoward.org

Rebuilding Together Howard County is Now Accepting Applications for Free Home Repairs!

Rebuilding Together Howard County is currently accepting applications from HoCo homeowners who are financially unable to make necessary repairs on their homes. All work is provided **Free of Charge**. Applications will be accepted through January and repair work will be completed during National Rebuilding Day on **April 25, 2009**. This is a wonderful opportunity! For more information and to fill out an application form, please visit

<http://www.rebuildingtogetherhc.org/index.shtml>

Track County Snowplows!!

As winter approaches residents can check the progress of the County's snow removal vehicles by clicking on the “**snowflake**” icon on the County's homepage at www.howardcountymd.gov and viewing the snow tracker map.

Thanks to global positioning devices on Howard County's snow vehicles, the snow tracker map shows the current location of snow plow vehicles, roads that have been treated, whether roads were plowed or salted, and the location of roads still to be treated. During a snowstorm, residents can also receive updated recorded information on road conditions by calling **Howard County's Citizen Information Hotline at 410-313-2900**.

To assist highway crews during a storm, residents with driveways are asked to park there and leave streets and cul-de-sacs clear whenever possible so snow removal vehicles can do their jobs quickly and public safety vehicles will have easier access in emergencies.

The Howard County snow plan covers more than 1,000 miles of a 3,800-road system which is divided into a series of routes. Primary and secondary roads receive the first service to ensure that public safety vehicles can provide service to citizens--then local residential roads are serviced. For further information please contact the Department of Public Works, **Bureau of Highways at (410) 313-7450**.

Child Development Centers Openings!

The Public Schools Employees' Child Development Program provides care for children ages 6 weeks through 5 years. On a space-available basis, children from the larger community may enroll in the program. The program currently has openings at Oakland Mills High School. For more information, call 410-888-9040 or visit <http://www.psecdp.com>

Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard County Police Department and the community, designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation, and to encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors. For more information please contact the Howard County Police Department **at 410-313-2200.**

Make a Difference for a Howard County Senior!

Be a Neighbor Ride volunteer driver and make a difference to a Howard County senior. Daytime, evening and weekend volunteer opportunities are available. Seniors are able to maintain their quality of life by attending activities when transportation is available.

Please contact **Rosemary Noble at 410-884-RIDE (7433)** or volunteer@neighborride.org for more information or to volunteer.

Blandair Regional Park News!

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board unanimously voted to adopt the proposed 2008 Blandair Master Plan. The consultant will now move towards the design phase of this project. The Master Plan is scheduled for submittal to the Department of Planning and Zoning in July 2009. To view the full project schedule please click the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP/RAP_BlandairRegPark.htm

Thank you to the Blandair Advisory Committee for all of their hard work and dedication, especially those members who represented the residents and communities in council district 2.

To view the proposed plan click the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP/RAPDocs/2008_Blandair_Master_Plan.pdf

You are encouraged to participate in the planning process of Blandair. To submit comments, questions or concerns via email you may contact rdelerme@howardcountymd.gov . Written comments may be submitted to **Gary J. Arthur, Director, Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, 7120 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia MD 21046.**